

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 5, with the following amended one:

The polymer compound composing the film of the invention is preferably a biodegradable polymer. Preferred biodegradable polymers from the standpoint of solubility in organic solvents include polylactic acid, ~~polylactic acid-polyglycolic acid~~(lactic acid-glycolic acid) copolymer, polyhydroxybutyric acid, polycaprolactone, biodegradable aliphatic polyesters such as polyethylene adipate and polybutylene adipate and aliphatic polycarbonates such as polybutylene carbonate and polyethylene carbonate; these may also be copolymers or mixtures. Particularly preferred among these are polylactic acid, ~~polylactic acid-polyglycolic acid~~(lactic acid-glycolic acid) copolymer, ~~caprolactone~~polycaprolactone and ~~polylactic acid-polycaprolactone~~(lactic acid-caprolactone) copolymer.

Please replace the third full paragraph (the paragraph under the header

Comparative Example 7) on page 15, with the following amended one:

Chondrocytes were cultured under the same conditions as Example 3 on a cast film obtained for ~~Comparative Example 7~~Comparative Example 6. Fig. 7 shows an optical micrograph of the obtained chondrocyte and cast film complex.